IDEAL BOOK GIFTS FOR CHRISTMAS

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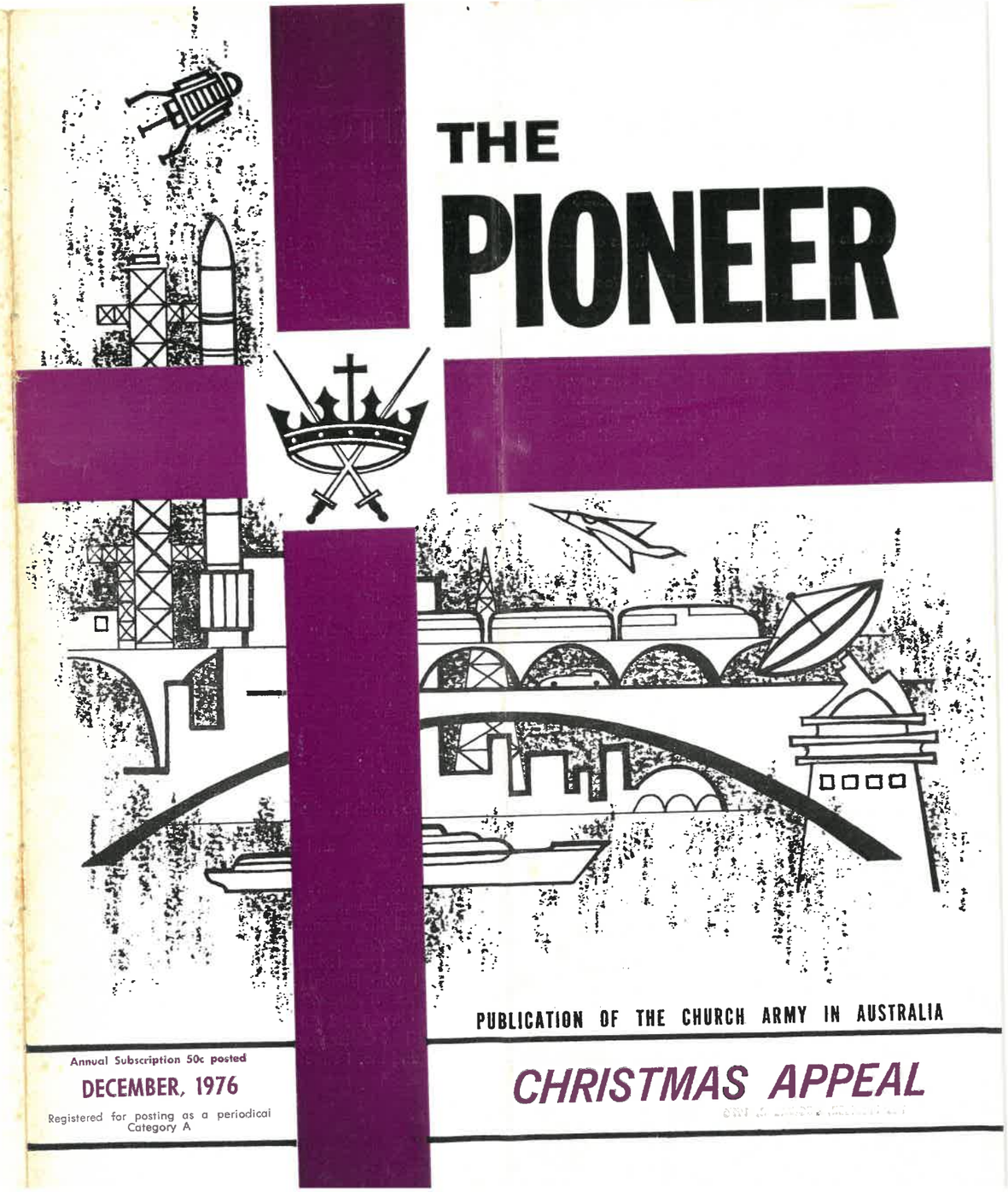

THE PIONEER

PUBLICATION OF THE CHURCH army IN AUSTRALIA

CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Annual Subscription 50c posted

DECEMBER, 1976

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A CALENDAR FOR PRAYER

The following is a suggested Calendar for Prayer, for use over a period of 30 days:

Day 1 : The Executive Board of the Church Army (names on page 2), the six Standing Committees of the Board — the bi-monthly meetings.

Day 2 : Captain and Mrs. K. J. Cullen, Anthony and Belinda, Parish of Forbes, N.S.W.

Day 3 : Principal of the Training College, the Rev. G. L. MacRobb, Mrs. MacRobb, Michael and Katrina.

Day 4 : Sister N. J. Bridges, Matron, Farr House Home for Girls, Springfield, S.A.

Day 5 : Students of the Training College : Lyn Bullard, Lyn Russell, Trevor Brooks, John Harding, Chris Thiele (for Australia), and Barbara Leatham, Wendy Woods, Will Just (for New Zealand).

Day 6 : Captain K. A. Donaldson, W.A.

Day 7 : Sister E. Campbell, Parish of Riverwood, N.S.W.

Day 8 : Captain and Mrs. R. G. Eland, Lance and Paul, Youth Work in Parish of Shellharbour, N.S.W.

Day 9 : Captain and Mrs. L. T. Fernance, Faith, Parish of Emmaville, N.S.W.

Day 10 : Captain R. L. Gwilt, Federal Secretary, Mrs. Gwilt, Stephen, Andrew and Timothy, Belrose, N.S.W.

Day 11 : Sister L. Dorrington, Parish of Mount Gambier, S.A.

Day 12 : Captain and Mrs. R. J. Harris, Glenda and Kerrie, leave of absence.

Day 13 : Captain and Mrs. D. W. Hinchliffe, Parish of Blacktown, N.S.W.

Day 14 : Sister P. A. Free, Staff Sister, Belrose, N.S.W.

Day 15 : Captain and Mrs. J. W. Joy, Parish of Kingsford, N.S.W.

Day 16 : Captain and Mrs. R. C. King, Ronwyn and Howard, Parish of Randwick, N.S.W.

Day 17 : Captain and Mrs. A. Malcolm, Andrew and Ruth, Yarrabah Aboriginal Settlement, Nth. Qld.

Day 18 : Sister F. M. Herman, Parish of Wallamba, N.S.W.

Day 19 : Captain and Mrs. B. Mattinson, Andrew, Christopher, Warwick and Stuart, Parish of Campbelltown, N.S.W.

Day 20 : Captain J. A. McKnight, "Alternative Culture" groups evangelism, Binna Burra, N.S.W.

Day 21 : Sister J. Leslie, Youth Director, Parish of Belmont, N.S.W.

Day 22 : Captain N. A. Payne, Manager, the Church Army Bookshops, Newcastle, Grafton and Gosford, N.S.W. Mrs. Payne, Andrea, Mark and Elizabeth.

Day 23 : Captain A. Polgen.

Day 24 : The Rev. Captain N. Polgen, St. George's Homes, Rockhampton, Qld.

Day 25 : Sister J. Midwinter, Parish of Penrith, N.S.W.

Day 26 : Captain D. O. Quayle, Industrial Evangelism, in 4 factories in Sydney, N.S.W.

Day 27 : Captain and Mrs. M. Tobin, Julie, Deborah and Christine, Parish of South Hedland, W.A.

Day 28 : Captain and Mrs. R. G. Wallis, Mark, Student Counsellor, Capricornian Institute of Advanced Education, Rockhampton, Qld.

Day 29 : Sister B. J. Rilatt, Leave of absence.

Day 30 : Retired officers and wives : the Rev. and Mrs. A. W. Batley, Mrs. C. Fisk, Sister G. A. Phillpot, Sister M. Pritchard, Mrs. J. S. Cowland, Sister I. B. Johnson, Sister E. N. Bacon.

CRISIS OF CHRISTMAS

Many adults can still keenly remember the childhood thrill of anticipation as Christmas approached. Their expectations were more strongly associated then with the idea of presents and holidays in the family circle than with the immense wonder of God's love made visible in the person of Jesus Christ.

One of the great needs of Christians of all age groups today, is to have a really keen and well-developed sense of expectation about God; that he is truly Lord of creation and of all human life and destiny; and that in the midst of the world's apparent chaos, violence and confusion He **is** 'working His purpose out'.

A question I have asked myself many times and which I have posed to many groups of Christians over the last two years is — "What are your expectations of the power of God at work within you, and through you to the lives of others?" Our expectations are determined by our hopes and hangups, our faith and fear. God says to us in the Gospel — 'let me greatly enlarge your expectations of my love and power in and through **your** life'. Jesus said — ". . . all things are possible to him who believes." (Mark 9:23). As have many other Christians, Church Army Evangelists have abundant evidence that God is very wonderfully at work in human lives and relationships, meeting the needs of body, mind and spirit.

In the sense that a crisis can be a turning point, the birth of Jesus Christ was a crisis in world history, dividing time in two and fulfilling the expectations of the few who had the faith and spiritual insight to realise He was God in their midst — Emmanuel, God with us.

Every Christmas can be a crisis point in the lives of those who 'see' for the first time or in renewed faith, that God in Christ is the answer to their deepest needs and the source of all life and love. This becomes increasingly real as we allow Him to enlarge our expectations of His power at work within us and through us. For this to happen may require that we reach a crisis point in our spiritual growth and so realise more clearly the Glory of God at work in our midst.

As you respond to our Christmas Appeal will you also pray that God will continually enlarge the Expectations of His people that this power may flow more freely through them into the lives of those who still "sit in darkness and in the shadow of death . . ." (Lk. 3:79).

Captain R. L. Gwilt.

Your contribution to our Christmas Appeal may be sent in the attached envelope.

OUR FINANCIAL POSITION

For the information of our supporters, the following summary has been compiled from our Annual Balance Sheet and Statement of Accounts for the year ended 30th June, 1976 :

TOTAL INCOME WAS	**$162412**
Subscriptions and Donations	18482
Allocations	3636
Retiring Collections	380
'Pioneer' Subscriptions	636
Field Work	102861
Fees — Students	2425
Gross Profit — sale of books	33663
Interest	329

TOTAL EXPENDITURE WAS	**$164061**
Salaries	98838
Training College	17278
Staff Welfare	6093
Office Expenses	9189
Bookshop Costs	23286
General Expenses and Travelling	7498
Depreciation	1879

This left a DEFICIT on operations of			**$1649**
Legacies received	10583		
Dividends from investments	299	10882	
Less Deficit		1649	9233
Capital : At beginning of year			100717
			109950

FUNDS EMPLOYED WERE :			
Capital			$109950
General Reserve			9034
Trusts			5427
			124411
EMPLOYMENT OF FUNDS :			
Fixed Assets —			
Land and Buildings			87423
Furniture, fittings, cars, van, etc.			15768
			103191
Investments —			
Shares at cost			2259
Current Assets —			
Stocks	17149		
Deposits at Call	551		
Cash at Bank (Bookshop)	2345		
Trust Funds	7780		
Debtors (Bookshop)	6769		
(Other)	925		
	35519		
DEDUCT :			
Current Liabilities —			
Trade Creditors	7759		
Provision for Long Service Leave	3521		
Loans — interest free	2650		
Car Finance Board	2628		
	16558		
Current assets in excess of current liabilities			18961
			$124411

meet the cost of a kitchen stove and a room heater. A generous donor kindly provided some used carpet in excellent condition which was sufficient for the whole house.

Much remains to be done to the College buildings in the way of repairs and improvements and for this purpose the Training College Building Fund needs a steady flow of income. Also, special donations are needed to supply internal improvements and the replacement of worn-out items which cannot be met from the Building Fund.

The Future — An important decision was taken by the Board on the recommendation of the Training College Committee, that opens up exciting possibilities for the future work of the College so that, in addition to training Officers, it may also,

(a) Develop a one or two year residential or non-residential course for non-Church Army students.

(b) Develop the College as a centre for the Society's ministry of motivating and equipping lay people for effective ministry.

With this in mind thought was given to changing the name of the College to The Church Army College of Evangelism.

BOOKSHOPS : The shops had another successful and very busy year and the Society is grateful to Captain Payne and his staff for their hard work. The total sales were $88,598. Profits from the bookshop ministry are used to help the general funds of the Society and an amount of $7,000 was received.

FINANCE & PROPERTY : Appeals, etc.— The 1975 Birthday and Christmas appeals produced a total of $5,633. This was a very welcome help as was the support from all our subscribers through the year. The deputation activities resulted in a large number of new supporters, especially can holders and the Women's Auxiliaries maintained their welcome support of our work.

Interest-free loans — At 30/6/76 these totalled $2,650. The loans are for varying amounts available for periods up to 1979. The Society is very grateful for this form of help.

"Walter & Eliza Hall" Trust — Once again the Trust gave the Society very generous grants for aspects of its work. These were as follows :— For the general purposes of the Training College $700 and for theological library books $225. For equipment for the Warden's House $404 and a further $1,000 towards the Society's share of the cost of Captain McKnight's work. This very considerable help is gratefully acknowledged.

Legacies — The help received from legacies is acknowledged and the following are the amounts received from the estates of the late F. A. M. Anderson $1,660 (sale of B.H.P. shares), G. Burns $425, E. A. Kaylock $8,480 (net proceeds sale of cottage) and A. C. Dean $18 (income from legacy).

THANKS : It is with gratitude to God for His many blessings and endless provision that the Society offers its thanks to all who have helped to make the work of the Church Army possible. These include our financial and legal advisers, the Dioceses and Parishes and individuals who supported the work in various ways; also the members of the Board and the Committees, the College lecturers, the members of the Women's Auxiliaries, Area Representatives and all our Officers active and retired.

R. L. Gwilt (Captain),
FEDERAL SECRETARY.

Editorial (Continued)

the amazing love of God, at seeing any of these in glory.

They will come from all parts — from north, south, east and west. The dark faces and the pale faces are alike now. We shall go in with uplifted foreheads, to wear the crown, with eager feet to tread those golden streets, with longing eyes to gaze upon the face of Christ, to worship God and the Lamb.

(From: "Travelling Toward Sunrise" Mrs. Charles E. Cowman).